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German World Policies. By PAUL ROHRBACH. Translated by EDMUND VON MACH. New York: Macmillan, 1915. 8vo, pp. 243. \$1.25.

This is a translation, only slightly abridged, of *Der deutsche Gedanke in der Welt*, published in 1912. It affords a significant insight into the German ideals and character and gives an estimate of British achievements and aspirations more just and unbiased than most that have proceeded from German sources since the war began.

The book is an exhortation to Germans to unite in spreading the German idea throughout the world, particularly in Turkey, Africa, and China, so as to make impossible the domination of the Anglo-Saxon type in those regions still in the process of development. The conquest should be a moral one based upon foundations of economic and political strength. The author claims that England seeks to crush the German empire and construes British naval preparations as a policy of aggression. But "the policy of the German idea does not contemplate any violence."

It is easy to criticize this book in the light of subsequent events. It is very doubtful if spiritual influences can be disseminated except by spiritual forces; the intellectual or moral contributions of a civilization cannot be spread, as Bernhardt says, "under the aegis of political power." The author's references to Turkish political and military vigor have not been borne out by subsequent history. The statement that "Russia has even lost the ability to undertake extensive political or military activity in Europe" is refuted by the witness of the present movements under the Grand Duke Nicholas. Certainly the events that took place on the eve of this great war do not seem to lay the responsibility on the shoulders of Great Britain.

Herr Rohrbach advocates German political expansion and yet he says, "The German is capable of truly great achievements only in the form of individual genius or when he has to submit to severe discipline in company with hordes of others. The free communion of work done by people who voluntarily organize for this purpose is not characteristic of the Germans." These words, if pushed to the logical conclusion, would seem to point to the unfitness of Germany to found a colonial empire.

A History of Social Legislation in Iowa. By JOHN E. BRIGGS. Iowa Social History Series. Iowa City, Iowa: The State Historical Society, 1915. 8vo, pp. xiv+444.

This volume is a thorough presentation of Iowa legislation for the control and promotion of social welfare. The author defines social legislation as "those protective measures, the object of which is to effect certain changes in the conditions of human life," and which, in the words of Professor James, seek to secure for each individual "a standard of living, and such a share in the values of civilization as shall make possible a full moral life." The field of